

Title (en)  
Three dimensional fiducial

Title (de)  
Dreidimensionale Bezugsmarke

Title (fr)  
Repère à trois dimensions

Publication  
**EP 2680296 A2 20140101 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 13173471 A 20130625**

Priority  
US 201213533870 A 20120626

Abstract (en)  
A method and system for forming and using a fiducial (204) on a sample (200) to locate an area of interest (202) on the sample, the method comprising forming a fiducial by depositing a block of material on a sample proximal to an area of interest on the sample, the block of material extending from the surface of the sample to a detectable extent above the surface of the sample; and milling, using a charged particle beam, a predetermined pattern into at least two exposed faces of the block of material; subsequent to forming the fiducial, detecting the location of the area of interest by detecting the location of the fiducial; and subsequent to detecting the location of the area of interest, imaging or milling the area of interest with a charged particle beam.

IPC 8 full level  
**H01J 37/317** (2006.01); **H01J 37/28** (2006.01)

CPC (source: CN EP US)  
**H01J 37/28** (2013.01 - CN EP US); **H01J 37/30** (2013.01 - US); **H01J 37/3045** (2013.01 - CN EP US); **H01J 2237/2811** (2013.01 - CN EP US); **H01J 2237/31732** (2013.01 - CN EP US); **H01J 2237/31745** (2013.01 - CN EP US); **H01J 2237/31749** (2013.01 - CN EP US); **Y10T 428/24488** (2015.01 - EP US); **Y10T 428/24802** (2015.01 - EP US)

Citation (applicant)  
• US 5851413 A 19981222 - CASELLA ROBERT A [US], et al  
• US 5435850 A 19950725 - RASMUSSEN JORGEN [US]

Designated contracting state (EPC)  
AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR

Designated extension state (EPC)  
BA ME

DOCDB simple family (publication)  
**US 8502172 B1 20130806**; CN 103512567 A 20140115; CN 103512567 B 20160217; EP 2680296 A2 20140101; EP 2680296 A3 20150909; JP 2014006524 A 20140116; JP 5492364 B2 20140514; US 2013344292 A1 20131226; US 8822957 B2 20140902

DOCDB simple family (application)  
**US 201213533870 A 20120626**; CN 201310255880 A 20130625; EP 13173471 A 20130625; JP 2013121959 A 20130610; US 201313948364 A 20130723